

1985 Introduction to Alaska



Pam: 91 (026) :
(*49)
ITA
1985

© Copyright 1984 Alaska Northwest Publishing Company, Box 4-EEE, Anchorage, Ala

POLARPAM

POLAR
PAM
5711

COVER Caribou are but one of the many species of Alaskan animals roaming Denali National Park between Anchorage and Fairbanks. Free bus tours on the 70-mile park road provide plenty of opportunities to see and photograph moose, Dall sheep, grizzly bears, wolves and a variety of smaller mammals and birds. (Helen Rhode)

WE SUSPECTED after your first visit that you'd come back again. So many people do come back, seeking to relive all the positive experiences of their initial visit, to see places they missed the first time around, and to recapture some of the impressions that have injected unique magic into the name Alaska.

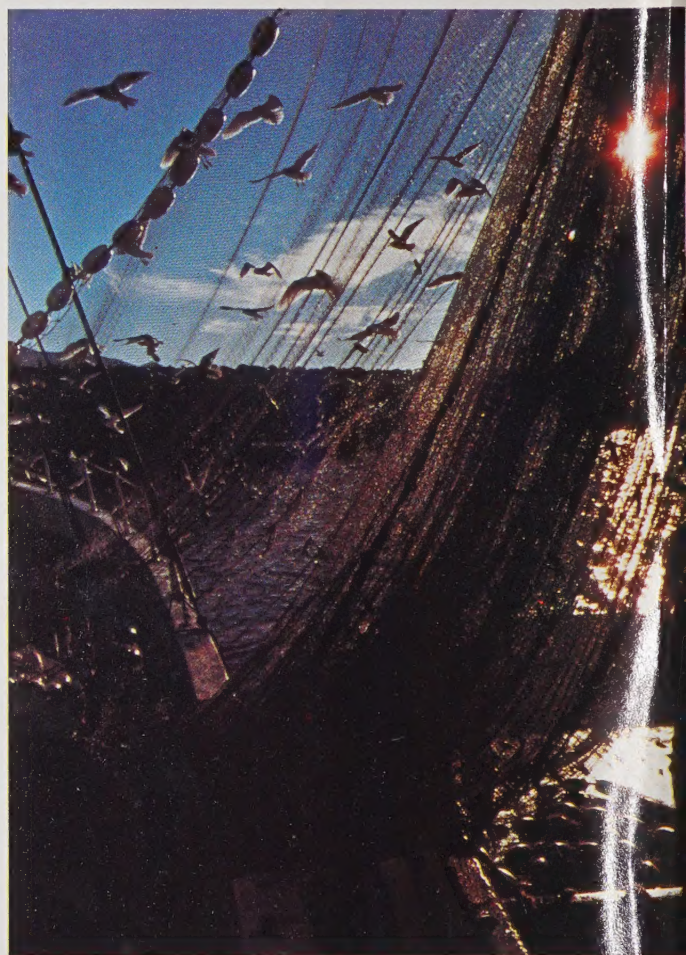
One visit allows barely enough time to scratch the surface of this huge state with its six distinctive regions, its remote villages, its incredible scenic wonders, its mind-boggling miles of coastline. Alaska's vastness is not only of size, but of history, economics, cultures, opportunities, people and all other elements which make up a geographical entity. These few pages will provide just a glimpse of the vastness, the grandeur of the 49th state. Perhaps during this visit we can dig a little deeper into lesser known places — while also not ignoring the outstanding attractions — and investigate some of the events that shaped the course of the state's history. On the way we'll introduce you to a few of the people whose influence helped build modern Alaska.

Tom Gresham

Editor, ALASKA® magazine



Viewing of abundant wildlife is a major attraction for Alaska visitors, and a moose feeding in a roadside pond is a common sight. (John Johnson)



LEFT The faces of Alaskans from all walks of life greet visitors to the 49th state. These outgoing young ladies live at Toksook Bay, an Eskimo village in western Alaska. (Staff)



ABOVE Alaska and fishing are often synonymous — commercial fishing is a major industry, and sportfishing is the drawing card for many visitors. Here, during a lull in often frantic activity aboard a commercial fishing vessel at Ketchikan, seines dry in brilliant sunlight and brisk sea winds. (Michael Holman)

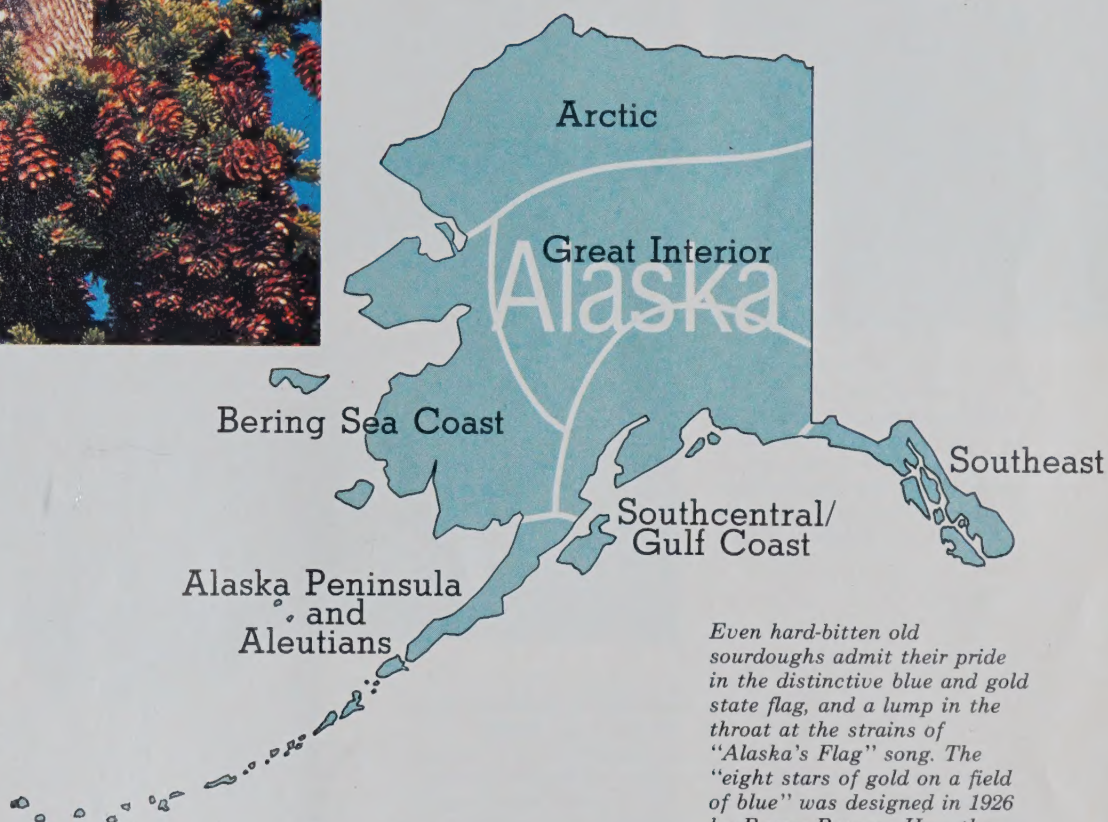


Everyone who flies over Alaska for the first time is stunned by the number and size of its mountains. This one in Denali National Park is known as The Mooses Tooth. (R. Dial)



Visitors to forested Alaska can check the trees for glimpses of a northern hawk-owl, distinguished by its heavily barred breast and lack of ear tufts. In summer the hawk-owl scans the forest floor for rodents; in winter when snow covers the ground, the owl preys on other small birds as well as small mammals.

(W. Harms)



Even hard-bitten old sourdoughs admit their pride in the distinctive blue and gold state flag, and a lump in the throat at the strains of "Alaska's Flag" song. The "eight stars of gold on a field of blue" was designed in 1926 by Benny Benson. Here the familiar symbol is displayed at Crow Creek Mine near Girdwood in southcentral Alaska. (Staff)

Monarch of Alaska's wildlife kingdom, the mighty brown/grizzly bear ranges throughout most of the state except the extreme southeast, the western Yukon-Kuskokwim delta, and the Aleutians beyond Unimak Island. Bears found in coastal areas are usually called brown bears; those from the interior regions are generally referred to as grizzlies. (Helen Rhode)



BOREAL INSTITUTE
LIBRARY

DATE: FEB - 6 1985

or No.1

No.1

058614



Arrival can be a leisurely pleasure when you leave the driving to someone else. The solarium on one of the state ferries offers relaxation and superlative views as it carries visitors up the scenic Inside Passage in southeastern Alaska. (Alissa Crandall)



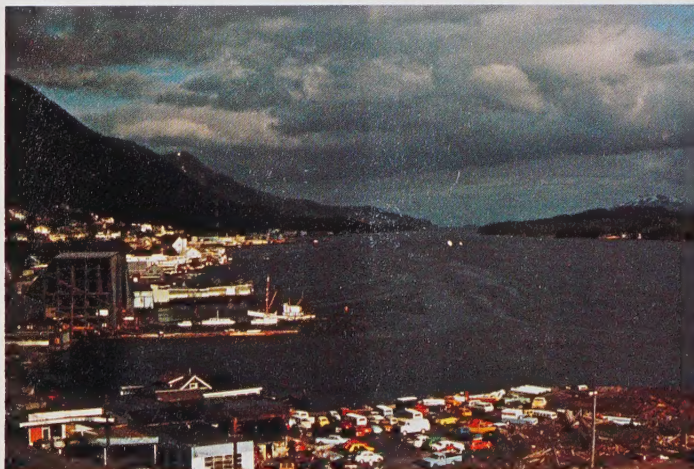
LEFT *Driving between Alaska and the Lower 48 requires two international border crossings, two checks with both Canadian and U.S. customs and immigration. Usually these encounters are mere formalities, brief and friendly. Here, at the Sumas-Abbotsford crossing, tourists have a choice of several interesting routes to Dawson Creek, Mile 0 on the Alaska Highway. (Tom Gresham, staff)*

ARRIVING in a new place is always an exciting experience, and arriving in Alaska has been known to present many extra challenges. Early visitors boarded steamers in Seattle for a long and often difficult voyage to the ports of southeastern Alaska, Seward or St. Michael. Arduous overland journeys and hazardous river travel were inescapable for those seeking their fortunes in the great land beyond the seacoast.

The advent of air transportation opened up the infinite avenues of the skies for visitors heading north, as well as changing the lives of Alaska residents. The ubiquity of the automobile combined with continuous upgrading of road systems to improve travel conditions to and within Alaska.

Today approximately nine percent of the state's visitors drive the Alaska Highway, 71 percent arrive by jetliners and the handsome ships of the state ferry system deliver four percent to the ports of southeastern Alaska.

BELOW *The view down Tongass Narrows introduces visitors to Ketchikan, the southeastern gateway into Alaska. (Staff)*



RIGHT *Fortune seekers of 90 years ago faced conditions hard to imagine today, although modern visitors still marvel at the grade of the legendary trail that led to riches for a few and disaster for many. (Cantwell photo reprinted from Chilkoot Pass)*



BELOW Residents of the small town of Manley Hot Springs on the Tanana River of interior Alaska greet the mail plane, always a welcome arrival in bush villages which heavily depend upon air service for transportation and communication. (Staff)



The Alaska Railroad station at Denali National Park is the site of crowd scenes during summer months when most visitors head toward the vicinity of North America's highest mountain. (Staff)



ABOVE The state ferry Tustumena arrives at Kodiak, population about 5,800, on Kodiak Island on the western edge of the Gulf of Alaska. The state ferry system's modern fleet carries vehicles and passengers throughout southeastern and southcentral Alaska's thousands of miles of coastline. (Staff)



During construction of the Alaska Railroad, Anchorage was a tent city of 6,000 citizens. Today, against high-rise buildings of the downtown area, the swelling population celebrates with fireworks displays during the annual Fur Rendezvous festivities each February — a wonderful time to visit the state. (Historical photo: courtesy Alaska Railroad, reprinted from *Cook Inlet Country*; fireworks photo: John and Margaret Ibbotson)



The Six Alaskas

BELOW A calm, clear January day at the tip of the Alaska Peninsula discloses the town of King Cove, population 523, surrounded by the volcanic peaks which form the 1,100-mile-long Aleutian Chain. (Steve Wottlin)



A **ALASKA PENINSULA / ALEUTIAN ISLANDS** — On the Alaska Peninsula, at the head of the 1,100-mile Aleutian Chain, Katmai National Park and Preserve and its Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes give dramatic evidence of the region's violent volcanic origins. Incredible wilderness is the site of excellent big game hunting as well as paradise for photographers and sightseers. Along the Aleutian Chain that extends in a great arc off Alaska's southwestern corner, villages are few, human population sparse, but the scenery of lush green islands, fog and wind-whipped seascapes staggers the imagination.

RIGHT A street in Seward, on the Kenai Peninsula in southcentral Alaska, slopes toward the busy harbor. Spectacular surroundings are one of the many rewards of living or visiting along Alaska's vast coast. (Jane Gnass)

S **OUTHCENTRAL / GULF COAST** — Some of North America's highest mountains grace this region, which includes Kodiak Island in the Gulf of Alaska, home port of some of the state's lucrative fisheries. The coastal area possesses the

diversity of fertile river valleys, high mountain ranges, volcanoes, glaciers, islands. At its center is busy Cook Inlet, scene of oil rigs and limitless recreational opportunities, with Anchorage, Alaska's largest city, at the inlet's northern edge.



S **OUTHEAST** — A wonderland of northern rain forests marks the Alaska Panhandle in the southeast corner of the state. Glaciers and ice fields extend for miles; weather by Alaska standards is gentle here — the mild, wet climate is ideal for timber growth. Tongass National Forest, encompassing most of the region, produces some 600 million board feet per year. Water is the dominant feature of the Panhandle, making the region eminently desirable for boaters and fishermen. Marine ferries — not roads — connect the towns and villages. Totem poles testify to strong Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian influence and remind us that Southeast has been home to Native cultures for centuries.



A carved totem figure stands watch above the houses of Angoon, a Tlingit community of 562 people on Admiralty Island in southeastern Alaska. (Staff)

BERING SEA COAST — Here is the vast land of “village Alaska,” sometimes called western Alaska, a 122,000-square-mile region reaching north from Bristol Bay to the Arctic Circle and including the wide-spreading Yukon-Kuskokwim deltas, the Seward Peninsula, and the Bering Sea islands. The delta’s watery world hosts huge salmon runs, incredible numbers of summer-nesting birds, and great expanses of treeless tundra. This is the land of the hardy Yup’ik Eskimo, as well as prospectors who still come to the minerals-rich Seward Peninsula in a modern version of the stampede at the turn of the century to Nome’s golden beaches.



LEFT Alaska children play on a mellow day in early autumn at Chena Hot Springs, a resort in Alaska’s great Interior. (Staff)



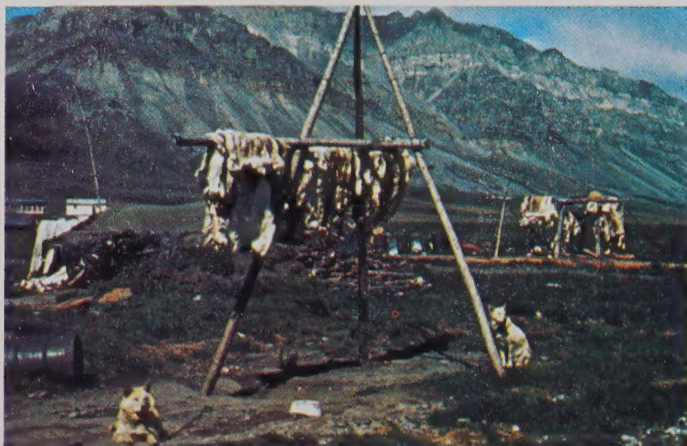
Roger Silook, at tiller, waves as he and other hunters set out on a walrus hunt off the coast of St. Lawrence Island in western Alaska. Subsistence is still the primary way of life for these hardy Eskimo people along Alaska’s western and arctic coasts. (Staff)

THE GREAT INTERIOR — The vast land between the Brooks Range on the north and the Alaska Range on the south covers an area of more than 166,000 square miles. The Interior experiences extremes of temperature — sometimes above 100 degrees in the summer, often 70 degrees below in the winter. The fabled Yukon River, with its great tributaries, the Tanana, the Porcupine and the Koyukuk, dissect the Interior. These waterways, along with the Kuskokwim to the southwest, provided early-day explorers and settlers their first means of access into the Interior. Gold seekers roamed the areas earlier in the century, and the region is rich in a variety of other minerals.

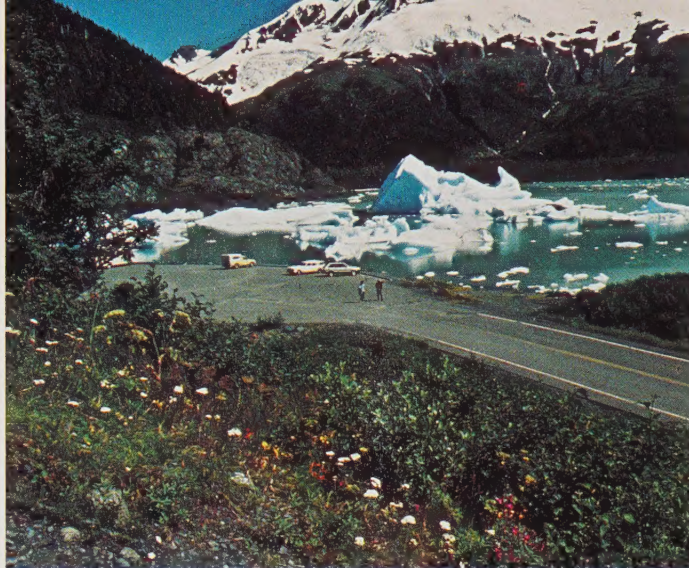
THE ARCTIC — The flat coastal plain between the Arctic Ocean and the Brooks Range is commonly known as the North Slope, scene of thousands of nameless lakes and ponds, nesting area for millions of birds, home of the Inupiat Eskimo, a race whose traditional culture is superbly adapted to the harsh climate.

Discovery of tremendous oil and gas reserves in 1968 led to construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline and investment of millions of dollars in the North Slope. Exploratory drilling continues in many locations throughout the region, encouraging steady economic development but worrying environmentalists.

Caribou hides dry on poles at Anaktuvuk Pass, high in the Brooks Range of northern Alaska, where 250 inland Eskimos live off the land. (Staff)



BELOW Small planes are as common as mosquitoes in Alaska, and many people whose homes surround the lakes of Anchorage moor the family Piper or Cessna in their watery front yards. Here swimmers, sun worshippers and floatplanes share the waters. (Third Eye Photography)



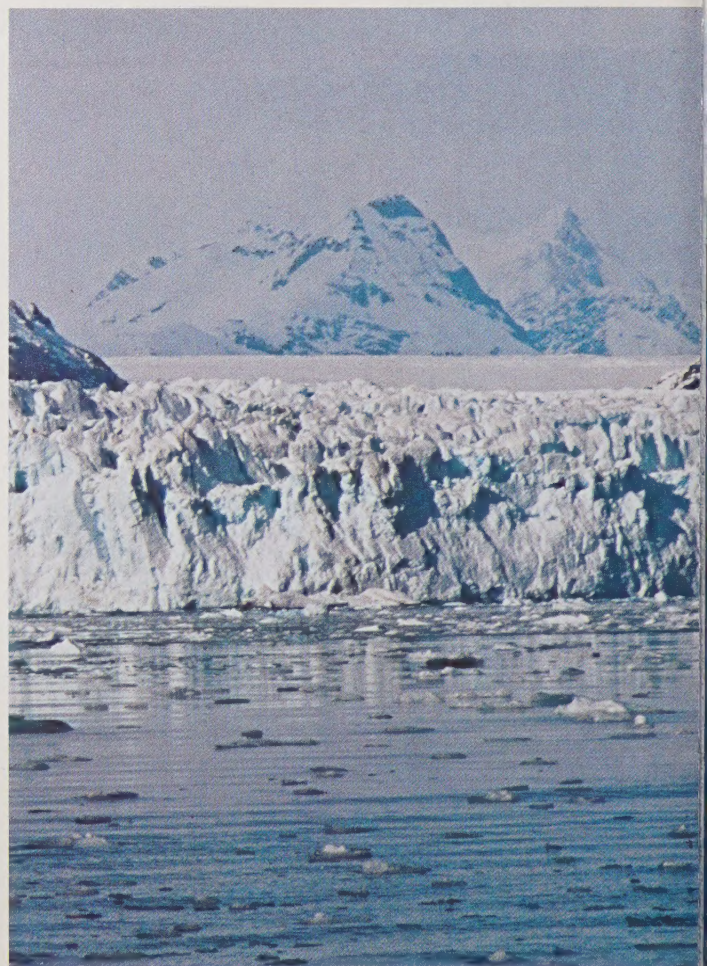
A must for visitors to southcentral Alaska — and tremendously popular because of its accessibility — is Portage Lake and Glacier, about 50 miles from Anchorage via modern highway. (Third Eye Photography)

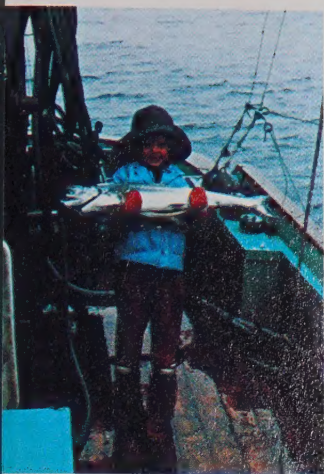


RIGHT Nature presents an awesome display at Columbia Glacier, which flows more than 40 miles before dumping its ice into Prince William Sound. (Staff)

ENJOYING the offerings of the 49th state is open to all people of all ages, limited only by individual interests and capabilities. Participation can be as active as one wishes, whether it's competing in the strenuous Iditaski race or the world-famous Iditarod Sled Dog Classic, climbing North America's highest peak, challenging white-water rivers, hunting for fossils at Point Woronzof — or simply sitting back on a bus and watching the wonders of scenery and wildlife unfold before your eyes.

BELOW The magnet that draws thousands of visitors each year, 20,320-foot Mount McKinley is often elusive, shrouded in summer's cloud cover. (Tim Christie)





LEFT Summer fun is spelled *f-i-s-h-i-n-g* at any age, although little Tracy Einerson's father fishes for more than merely fun: he operates a trawler out of Petersburg, a busy fishing port of southeastern Alaska, where he caught this winning shot of a thrilled young fisherwoman. (Greg Einerson)



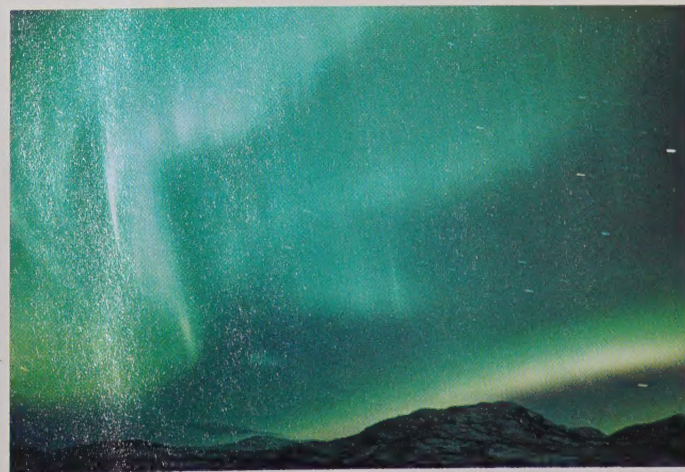
RIGHT Dogs play an important role in Alaska, not only historically but through their active part in the state's enthusiastic sport scene. Zena Reitano shows an appealing Siberian husky pup to a visitor at the Reitano family's kennel at Tok. (Staff)



RIGHT Champion racer Roxy Wright flies around a curve in the World Championship trail at Anchorage. Sled dog racing, official state sport, attracts large numbers of participants and spectators during winter months. (Tom Gresham, staff)



RIGHT A scene along the Iditarod Trail captures several popular winter sports all in one frame — cross-country skiers are checking in at a stop during a ski race, while a dog team takes a rest stop and the driver of a snow machine has also taken a break from the rigors of the trail. (©J. Schultz)



Nature's overwhelming displays are still the best show in town. A light show of the aurora borealis, photographed over Judd Lake in southcentral Alaska in early October, is not soon forgotten. (©Shelley Schneider)



The caribou of Alaska number in the thousands. This small herd in Denali National Park crowds onto a patch of snow remaining on a protected hillside in July, seeking relief from the onslaught of insects which make their lives miserable. (Brad W. Ebel)

LEARNING about a state as diversified as Alaska offers unique experiences. This year we'll try some new places and activities to give you a sample of all there is to see and do.

Did you ever imagine you might attend a whaling feast? or watch a reindeer roundup? or see what the world looks like from 10 feet above a walrus-hide blanket being tossed by many energetic arms?

Did you once believe that every building in Alaska probably was a log cabin — or even an igloo? Sorry, we're afraid you won't see any of the latter, except perhaps some of the old sod houses of the western Arctic: these are *barabaras*, commonly called igloos, but they're not like those you see in cartoons and movies.

Have you any idea why, in the middle of summer, caribou tend to congregate on random patches of snow?

Have you ever seen fish caught in these strange contraptions?

Have you spent much time in places where old cultural traditions and practices mingled significantly with the modern society? No? Well, come with us and listen to the haunting rhythm of the Eskimo drums.

The old and the new strike dramatic contrasts, from ancient buildings like this store (right) in the town of McCarthy to a modern solar home in Eagle River (below). History lives on in structures that evoke romance of past eras, like this dredge near Nome (below right). (All photos: staff)





ABOVE The old ways endure in Alaska's remote villages, where Native people follow time-honored customs to acquire their food and livelihood. Here an Eskimo woman scrapes the hide of an qogruk (bearded seal) on the beach at Nome. (John and Margaret Ibbotson)

BELOW Reindeer herding plays an important role in the economy of the Kotzebue area. Workers are shown dehorning one of the animals; the antlers are greatly in demand in the oriental market. (Staff)



A fascinating stop for visitors in southcentral Alaska is the cemetery at Eklutna, a short ride north of Anchorage, where colorful spirit houses, erected 40 days after a burial in honor of the deceased and marked with the three-barred crosses of the Orthodox faith, protect the gravesites of the Athabascan Indian people buried there. (Freda Shen)

BELOW Songs and dances of the Eskimo people, accompanied by the beating of a skin drum, create an atmosphere of dignified tradition which becomes a haunting memory of an Alaska visit. (Staff)



ABOVE These cleverly constructed dolls in a display of Native art illustrate a popular festival pastime called nalukataq, in which brave individuals are tossed skyward from the not-so-steady base of a walrus-hide trampoline. (Staff)

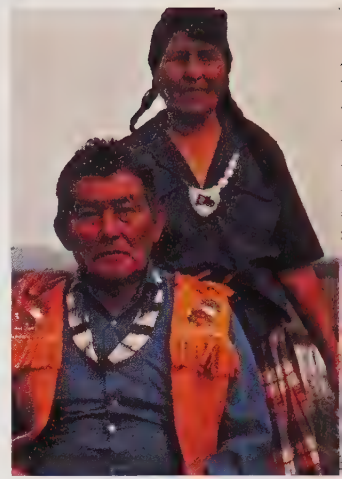


ABOVE Alaska rivers are dotted with fish camps, like this one along the Yukon, where huge fish wheels, turned by the current, scoop up salmon as they swim upstream. (J. Watson)





LEFT These Indian chiefs discussed aboriginal land claims and their need for education and work with representatives from the U.S. government at a historic meeting in 1915 in Fairbanks. Standing are Chief William of Tanana; Paul Williams, interpreter; and Chief Charles of Minto. Seated are Chief Alexander of Tolovana, Chief Tomas of Nenana, Chief Ivan of Crossjacket, and Chief Alexander William of Tanana. (Alaska Historical Library)



Chief Andrew Isaac of Tanacross, one of the last of the great Athabascan leaders, is shown with his wife Maggie. (Staff)

BELOW This much photographed farm in the shadow of Pioneer Peak at Palmer carries on the tradition of the resourceful Matanuska pioneers who came to the valley during the Depression and built homes, farms and communities. (Third Eye Photography)



CONTRIBUTING to Alaska's growth and greatness through the years have been people from all walks of life whose reasons for being here were as diverse as their backgrounds.

The Native people — Eskimos, Indians and Aleuts — original inhabitants of the Great Land, have maintained integrity and stability in their villages even under the inexorable pressures of social and economic change. They have matured in responsibilities to the larger society while keeping their own organizations strong. Their ancient heritage imbues Alaska with the rich colors of revered cultural traditions.

Although many outsiders came north to acquire fortunes and then leave, a tremendous number of people — miners and fishermen, explorers and industrialists, educators and farmers — came north to give as well as to take. Early settlers discovered opportunities here for a way of life impossible in many other places. They labored long to make places for themselves and to contribute to a solid economy. Farmers, miners and homesteaders opened up new areas where, today, modern towns and villages testify to the efforts of those who have built for the future. Modern-day fortune seekers involved in petroleum and mineral exploration strive for sensible development to ensure that the state's incredibly rich resources may be utilized responsibly to benefit mankind without sacrificing the human and environmental values which distinguish Alaska, so man may not only preserve but also prosper. Many who came for just a visit or a short-term job recognize the unique potential that urges them to stay and become part of the special life Alaskans enjoy.

RIGHT Young people in colorful traditional costumes rush happily to a performance of their dance group. Teachers among the diversified Native population strive to keep cultural and linguistic heritage alive while preparing young people for all they will encounter in today's high-tech society. (Staff)



BELOW The timber industry is a mainstay of southeastern Alaska. Here a large wood-processing mill hums at Sitka. (Bruce Katz)



ABOVE Objects of almost spiritual beauty emerge from the talented touch of Native craftspeople like Aldine Simons, basket maker of Hooper Bay in western Alaska. (Staff)



ABOVE Alaska's black gold has brought wealth to the state as well as contributing to the nation's energy stocks. A worker on the trans-Alaska pipeline steam-cleans a pipe clamp. (Staff)

RIGHT — The discovery of oil on the North Slope in 1968 and construction of the 800-mile trans-Alaska oil pipeline in the 1970s dramatically improved the state's economy. Here, former Gov. William A. Egan signs a joint state-federal agreement governing responsibility for supervision of construction of the pipeline. Looking on are Andrew P. Rollins Jr., federal authorizing officer for the project, and Curtis McVee, Alaska director of the Bureau of Land Management. Egan, who died in 1984, was elected the state's first governor; he served three terms.



NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Air Alaska, Pouch 4-9007, Anchorage 99509. Monthly. Rates: free to all licensed Alaskan pilots. **Alaska Fisherman's Journal**, 1115 N.W. 46th St., Seattle, WA 98107. Monthly. Rates: 12 issues (plus 4 of *Seafood Leader*): second class, \$15; first class, \$30, foreign, \$58. **ALASKA GEOGRAPHIC**®, Box 4-EEE, Anchorage 99509. Quarterly. Annual rates, including membership in The Alaska Geographic Society: \$30; outside the U.S., \$34. **The ALASKA JOURNAL**®, Box 4-EEE, Anchorage 99509. Quarterly. Annual rates: \$16; outside the U.S., \$20.

Alaska Journal of Commerce and Pacific Rim Reporter, Pouch 4-9007, Anchorage 99509. Weekly. Rates: 1 year, \$49; 2 years, \$90. **ALASKA® magazine**, Box 4-EEE, Anchorage 99509. Monthly. Annual rates: \$18 (\$17 for each additional subscription ordered at the same time); outside the U.S., \$22. **Aleutian Eagle**, P.O. Box 486, Dutch Harbor 99692. Twice monthly. Annual rates: Alaska, \$30; Outside, \$35. **All-Alaska Weekly**, P.O. Box 970, Fairbanks 99707. Weekly. Second-class rates: 6 months, \$11; 1 year, \$20. **Anchorage Daily News**, Pouch 6616, Anchorage 99502. Daily including Sunday. Monthly rates: Anchorage home delivery, \$4.75; second-class mail, \$12.95.

The Anchorage Times, P.O. Box 40, Anchorage 99510. Daily including Sunday. Monthly rates: Anchorage home delivery, \$4.75; second-class mail, \$13. **Bering Sea Fisherman**, 805 W. Third Ave., Anchorage 99501. Every two months. Annual rate: \$10. **Bristol Bay Times**, Box 10024, Dillingham 99576. Twice monthly. Annual rates: Alaska, \$15; Outside, \$20. **Cheechako News**, P.O. Drawer 0, Kenai 99611. Weekly. Annual second-class rates: Alaska, \$20; Outside, \$25. **Chugiak-Eagle River Star**, P.O. Box 1007, Eagle River 99577. Weekly. Rates: 6 months, \$6.50; 1 year, \$12.75. **Copper Valley Views**, P.O. Box 233, Copper Center 99573. Weekly. Annual rate: \$15. **Cordova Times**, P.O. Box 200, Cordova 99574. Weekly. Annual rates: second class, \$30; first class, \$60. **Daily Sitka Sentinel**, P.O. Box 799, Sitka 99835. Daily except Saturday and Sunday. Annual rate: Sitka, \$50. Write for mailed subscription rates. **The Delta Paper**, P.O. Box 988, Delta Junction 99737. Weekly. Rate: \$1.10 per issue. Write for out-of-town rates. **Fairbanks Daily News-Miner**, Box 710, Fairbanks 99707. Daily except Sunday. Annual second-class rate: Alaska, \$131.75. Write for rates outside Alaska. **The Frontiersman**, P.O. Box D, Palmer 99645. Weekly. Annual second-class rates: Matanuska-Susitna Borough, \$12.50; elsewhere, \$20. **Great Lander Shopping News**, 3110 Spennard Road, Anchorage 99503. Weekly. Free in distribution area. Annual mail rate: third class, \$20. **Homer News**, P.O. Box 254, Homer 99603. Weekly. Annual rates: Kenai Peninsula Borough, \$24; elsewhere, second class, \$30; first class, \$54. **Inuvik Drum**, P.O. Box 2660, Inuvik, NWT, Canada XOE 0T0. Weekly. Inquire for rates. **Juneau Empire**, 235 Second St., Juneau 99801. Daily except Saturday and Sunday. Rates: Juneau 1 month, \$5.25; 1 year, 163; elsewhere, 3 months, \$24. **Kodiak Times**, P.O. Box 1698, Kodiak 99615. Twice weekly. Annual rates: second class, \$26; first class, \$39. **Ketchikan Daily News**, P.O. Box 7900, Ketchikan 99901. Daily except Sunday. Annual rates: Ketchikan, \$61; elsewhere, second class, \$85. **Kodiak Daily Mirror**, P.O. Box 1307, Kodiak 99615. Daily except Saturday and Sunday. Annual second class rates: Alaska, \$58; Outside, \$84. **Kusko Courier**, McCrath 99627. Write for subscription rates. **Lynn Canal News**, P.O. Box 637, Haines 99827. Weekly. Annual second-class rates: Haines, \$25; elsewhere, \$28. First class, \$40. **The MILEPOST**®, Box 4-EEE, Anchorage 99509. Annual edition, available in March. \$12.95 (\$14.95 in Canada) plus \$1 for fourth-class postage and handling; \$3 for first-class mail. **Mukluk News**, P.O. Box 96, Tok 99780. Twice monthly. Annual

rates: first class, \$24; third class, \$10. **News North**, P.O. Box 2820, Yellowknife, NWT, Canada X1A 2R1. Weekly. Annual rates: Canada, \$30; foreign, \$50. **Nome Nugget**, P.O. Box 610, Nome 99762. Weekly. Annual second-class rates: Alaska, \$24; Outside, \$28. Fifty percent discount for senior citizens. **Peninsula Clarion**, P.O. Box 4330, Kenai 99611. Daily except Saturday and Sunday. Annual second-class rates: Alaska, \$35; Outside, \$48. **Petersburg Pilot**, P.O. Box 930, Petersburg 99833. Weekly. Annual second-class rates: Petersburg, \$22; elsewhere, \$25. First class, \$40. **Senior Voice**, P.O. Box 10-2240, Anchorage 99510. Monthly. Annual rate for nonmembers of Older Persons Action Group, \$10. **Seward Phoenix Log**, P.O. Box 97, Seward 99664. Weekly. Annual second-class rates: Kenai Peninsula Borough, \$20; elsewhere, \$24. First class, \$38. **The Skagway News**, P.O. Box 1898, Skagway 99840. Twice monthly. Annual rates: Skagway, \$15; elsewhere, \$25. **Southeastern Log**, P.O. Box 7900, Ketchikan 99901. Monthly. Annual rates: free to southeastern Alaska residents; other Alaska residents and out-of-state subscriptions, \$12. **Tundra Drums**, P.O. Box 868, Bethel 99559. Weekly. Annual second-class rates: Alaska, \$20; elsewhere, \$30. First class, \$55. **Tundra Times**, 411 W. Fourth Ave., Anchorage 99501. Weekly. Second-class rates: 6 months, \$12; 1 year, \$20. **Valdez Vanguard**, P.O. Box 157, Valdez 99686. Weekly. Annual second-class rates: Valdez, \$30; elsewhere, \$60. **The Valley Sun**, Pouch M, Wasilla 99687. Weekly. Write for subscription rates. **Whitehorse Yukon Star**, 2149 Second Ave., Whitehorse, YT, Canada Y1A 1C5. Three times a week. Write for rates. **Wrangell Sentinel**, Box 798, Wrangell 99929. Weekly. Annual rates: second class, \$22; first class, \$39.

AVERAGE COSTS OF LIVING AROUND ALASKA

Food — average cost for one week at home for a family of four with elementary schoolchildren (costs compiled 12/83; U.S. average \$75):

Southeast (Juneau)	\$89.35
Southcentral/Gulf Coast (Anchorage)	\$79.50
Interior (Fairbanks)	\$81.08
Bering Sea (Nome)	\$157.02
Southwest (Bethel)	\$123.60

Housing — average cost of single family residence with three bedrooms, including land (costs compiled 7/83):

Southeast (Juneau)	\$115,681 (buy); \$1,081/mo (rent)
Southcentral/Gulf Coast (Anchorage)	\$127,945 (buy); \$1,170/mo (rent)
Interior (Fairbanks)	\$118,497 (buy); \$1,017/mo (rent)
Bering Sea (Nome)	\$140,000 (buy); rental figure n/a
Arctic (Kotzebue)	\$145,000 (buy); rental figure n/a

Gasoline — average cost for 55-gallon drum (compiled 12/83):

Southeast (Juneau)	\$77.00
Southcentral/Gulf Coast (Anchorage)	\$64.30
Interior (Fairbanks)	\$69.30
Bering Sea (Nome)	\$97.63
Southwest (Bethel)	\$85.85

Heating Oil — average cost for 55-gallon drum (compiled 3/83):

Southeast (Juneau)	\$68.75
Southcentral/Gulf Coast (Anchorage)	\$61.33
Interior (Fairbanks)	\$57.50
Bering Sea (Nome)	\$90.75
Southwest (Bethel)	\$77.73

Taxes — city and borough (Alaska has no state income tax), as of 12/82:

Southeast (Juneau)	4.0% sales
Southcentral/Gulf Coast (Anchorage)	none
Interior (Fairbanks)	none
Bering Sea (Nome)	3.0% sales
Arctic (Kotzebue)	3.0% sales

Annual family income for families of four:

Alaska, with \$35,834, had the highest estimated median income for all 50 states in fiscal year 1983. The U.S. average is \$26,274 annually.

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS

Prudhoe Bay on Alaska's North Slope sits atop the largest oil field in North America. The field is believed to hold about one-quarter of the known petroleum reserves in the United States.

The nation's largest and second-largest national forests are both located in Alaska: Tongass in Southeast and Chugach in Southcentral. The two forests have a combined acreage of nearly 23 million acres, or about six percent of the state.

INFORMATION SOURCES

Agriculture: Division of Agriculture, Pouch A, Wasilla 99687; Cooperative Extension Service, University of Alaska, Fairbanks 99701.

Business: Department of Commerce & Economic Development, Pouch D, Juneau 99811; State Chamber of Commerce, 310 Second St., Juneau 99801.

Education: Department of Education, Pouch F, Juneau 99811; U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, Box 3-8000, Juneau 99802.

Health: Department of Health & Social Services, Pouch H-01, Juneau 99811.

Housing: Alaska State Housing Authority, Box 100080, Anchorage 99510.

Hunting and Fishing Regulations: Department of Fish & Game, Box 3-2000, Juneau 99802.

Job Opportunities: State Employment Service, Box 3-7000, Juneau 99802.

Labor: Department of Labor, Box 1149, Juneau 99811.

Land: Division of Land & Water Management, Pouch 7-005, Anchorage 99510; U.S. Bureau of Land Management, 701 C Street, P.O. Box 13, Anchorage 99513.

Tourism: Division of Tourism, Pouch E, Juneau 99811; Alaska Marine Highway System, Pouch R, Juneau 99811.



"The Lady" — Mount Susitna or Sleeping Lady, reposes eternally across Cook Inlet from Anchorage, Alaska's largest city. Legend tells us that Susitna fell asleep while waiting in vain for her slain lover to return from battle, and she will sleep until the world is at peace. (Third Eye Photography)

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS

Alaska's coastal brown bears, or grizzlies, are the largest living carnivorous land mammals in the world. Coastal bears average much larger than Interior grizzlies, with some individuals weighing up to 1,200 pounds and measuring eight or nine feet from nose to tail.

The Alaska Railroad is the northernmost railroad in North America. It stretches 470 miles from the port of Seward through Anchorage and on to Fairbanks in the Interior. In May 1984, the Alaska legislature agreed to purchase

The Alaska Railroad from the federal government for \$22.3 million.

The largest gold nugget ever found in Alaska weighed more than 107 ounces and measured seven inches long, four inches wide, and two inches thick. The nugget was discovered on Anvil Creek, near Nome, on September 29, 1901.

More than half the coal resource of the United States is believed to be in Alaska — perhaps as much as six trillion tons. Geologists think that as much as 80 percent of the state's coal exists within the 23-million-acre National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska on the North Slope.

MILEAGES

Highway Mileages	To Anchorage	To Fairbanks
Chicago	3,927	3,804
Los Angeles	3,629	3,506
New York	4,768	4,645
Seattle	2,484	2,361

Anchorage	—	358
Dawson Creek,		
British Columbia	1,643	1,520
Delta Junction	338	97
Denali Park	237	121
Fairbanks	358	—
Haines	785	662
Haines Junction,		
Yukon Territory	626	503

Air Mileages	
London	4,490
Paris	4,706
Tokyo	3,460
Moscow	5,282

POPULATION

Community	Population	Community	Population	Community	Population	Community	Population
Akiak	103	Kalskag, Lower	260	Nome	3,430	Seward	1,839
Akiachak	451	Kalskag, Upper	133	Nondalton	176	Shageluk	132
Akiak	229	Kasaan	70	Noorvik	518	Shaktolik	159
Akutan	188	Kasigluk	328	North Pole	942	Sheldon Point	107
Alakanuk	546	Kenai	5,261	Nuiqsut	287	Shishmaref	425
Aleknagik	232	Ketchikan	7,778	Nulato	353	Shungnak	214
Allakaket	169	Kiana	364	Old Harbor	355	Sitka (city and borough)	8,223
Ambler	202	King Cove	523	Ouzinkie	233	Skagway	790
Anaktuvuk Pass	250	Kivalina	253	Palmer	2,542	Soldotna	3,025
Anchorage	200,503	Klawock	433	Pelican	185	Stebbins	321
Anderson	522	Kobuk	64	Petersburg	3,040	Tanana	486
Angoon	562	Kodiak	5,873	Pilot Station	337	Teller	206
Aniak	351	Kotlik	347	Point Hope	544	Tenakee Springs	141
Anvik	115	Kotzebue	2,470	Port Alexander	98	Togiak	507
Atmautluak	236	Koyuk	99	Port Heiden	94	Tok	589
Barrow	2,882	Kupreanof	54	Port Lions	291	Toksook Bay	357
Bethel	3,683	Kwethluk	467	Quinhagak	427	Tuluksak	243
Brevig Mission	134	Manokotak	299	Ruby	214	Tununak	302
Buckland	244	McGrath	498	Russian Mission	175	Unalakleet	604
Chefornak	513	Mekoryuk	178	St. George	158	Unalaska	1,922
Chevak	124	Metlakatla	1,056	St. Marys	442	Valdez	3,698
Chuathbaluk	80	Mountain Village	601	St. Michael	295	Wainwright	436
Clarks Point	2,244	Napakiak	286	St. Paul	595	Wales	129
Cordova	604	Napaskiak	251	Sand Point	797	Wasilla	2,403
Craig	158	Nenana	475	Savoonga	477	White Mountain	121
Deering		Newhalen	140	Scammon Bay	251	Whittier	224
		Nightmute	141	Selawik	602	Wrangell	2,376
		Nikolai	110	Seldovia	733	Yakutat	462



The _____ of Alaska and the North Country



Date Due

058614

Pam:91(026):(*49)

ITA

1985

AUTHOR

1985 Introduction to Alaska

TITLE

DATE
LOANED

BORROWER'S NAME

DATE
DUE

058614

BOREAL INSTITUTE FOR NORTHERN STUDIES
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA
T6G 2E9

Here it is, all for you . . . your
source for the very best books
and magazines on Alaska and
the North Country.

ALASKA® magazine brings you outstanding coverage
of Life on the Last Frontier®. Each monthly issue is
packed with photos and features about Alaskan people
and places. Subscriptions are \$18 per year (\$22 for
foreign addresses including Canada).

ALASKA GEOGRAPHIC® is the official quarterly
publication of The Alaska Geographic Society. Each
issue deals with a single topic and treats it in depth.
The paper, printing and color photography are of highest
quality. Membership costs \$30 per year (\$34 for foreign-
address memberships, including Canada).

The ALASKA JOURNAL® brings the past alive. This
colorful quarterly covers the history and arts of Alaska,
and every issue now contains a classic book reprint.
Subscriptions are \$16 per year (\$20 for foreign
addresses, including Canada).

The MILEPOST® 1985
All-the-North Travel Guide®
37th Edition

A great reference source, the perfect travel guide and a
wonderful souvenir. The MILEPOST® includes mile-by-
mile logs of all access routes, the Alaska Highway and
all major roads in the North, plus how-to information on
air, rail and water travel. Included are dozens of regional
and area maps, plus a big fold-out map of the entire
region. Updated and revised annually. \$12.95 plus
\$1 fourth-class, \$3 first-class postage. Available March
1985.

The ALASKA ALMANAC® Facts About Alaska.
Annually updated, this handy little book is a
compendium of information about the entire state. An
excellent A-to-Z fact book. To order by mail send \$5.95
plus \$1 postage and handling.

_____ The MILEPOST® 1985 edition

_____ ALASKA® ☐ New ☐ Renewal

_____ The ALASKA ALMANAC®

_____ The Alaska Geographic Society, membership includes
the quarterly magazine, ALASKA GEOGRAPHIC®

☐ New ☐ Renewal

_____ The ALASKA JOURNAL® ☐ New ☐ Renewal

_____ Please send me a complete list of all the North Country books
available from Alaska Northwest Publishing Company. Free.

\$_____ TOTAL ENCLOSED. All prices are in U.S. funds.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE/PROV _____

ZIP _____



**ALASKA NORTHWEST
PUBLISHING COMPANY**

Sales and Circulation Offices
130 Second Avenue South
Edmonds, Washington 98020